

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

UNCLAS STATE 000159

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC, CZ

SUBJ: SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL

1. IN FINAL CONVERSATION WITH DR JAKOBSON BEFORE HER DEPARTURE, MR TRAVNICEK AND MADAME MUSILKOVA EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER IVAN ENGLISH'S PROPOSAL FOR SELECTIN 23 PERFORMERS FROM THE STATE ENSEMBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN 1976 BICENTENNIAL FESTIVAL. THEY WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY TWO NON-PERFORMERS, ONE FOLKLORIST TO ASSIST WITH THE PRESENTATIONS (PRESUMABLY IVAN ENGLISH) AND ONE TOUR ADMINISTRATOR.

2. SMITHSONIAN REQUESTS P/C URGE ENGLISH TO CONFER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH TRAVNICEK AND MUSILKOVA TO PRESENT PROPOSAL IN DETAIL AND OBTAIN THEIR APPROVAL SO THAT FUNDS WILL BE COMMITTED. WOULD THEN APPRECIATE ADVICE ON OUTCOME OF THEIR CONFERRING. JAKOBSON CONFIDENT ENGLISH SELECTIONS WILL MEET FESTIVAL STANDARDS. ROBINSON

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